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SOURCE Neue Zürcher Zeitung.FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE IMPROVES

1950 IMPORTS, EXPORTS SMALLER THAN IN 1949 -- Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 27 Jul 50

The recently published report on exports and imports for June 1950 shows that Czechoslovakia imported 3,380,000,000 crowns' worth of goods (4,331,000,000 in June 1949) and exported 3,508,000,000 crowns' worth of goods (3,929,000,000 in June 1949). The favorable balance for June 1950 was 128 million crowns, as compared to the June 1949 balance, which was unfavorable by 402 million crowns.

In the first half of 1950 Czechoslovakia imported 16,867,000,000 crowns' worth of goods (20,282,000,000 in 1949) and exported 17,650,000,000 crowns' worth of goods (20,056,000,000 in 1949). The balance for the first half of 1950 was favorable by 783 million crowns, as compared to the balance for the first half of 1949, which was unfavorable by 226 million crowns.

Czechoslovakia has long-term export and import agreements with the USSR (until the end of 1952), Great Britain (until the end of 1954), and other Western countries. The first agreement with China ends at the end of 1950. The agreement with Switzerland (goods exchange and payment agreements) ends on 31 December 1950.

Agreements with Norway, the Netherlands, Guatemala, and Ecuador are being or will be negotiated.

Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 15 Aug 50

During July, 1950, Czechoslovakia imported 3,056,000,000 crowns' worth of goods, or 521 million crowns' worth of goods less than in July 1949. During July 1950, exports totaled 2,862,000,000 crowns' worth of goods, or 287 million crowns' worth of goods less than in July 1949. The July 1950 trade balance was unfavorable by 194 million crowns, while in July 1949 this figure amounted to 433 million crowns.

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Imports for January through July 1950 were valued at 19,920,000,000 crowns, as compared to 23,862,000,000 crowns in the same period of 1949 -- a decrease of 3,942,000,000 crowns. Exports for this period in 1950 were valued at 20,511,000,000 crowns, as compared to 23,203,000,000 crowns in January through July 1949 -- a decrease of 2,692,000,000 crowns.

During the first 7 months of 1950 the favorable trade balance equaled 591 million crowns, while the balance of trade during the same period in 1949 was unfavorable by 659 million crowns. Thus, the trade balance is better than that of the first 7 months of 1949 by 1,250,000,000 crowns.

Heavy-industry exports are constantly increasing.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO TRADE WITH CHINA, NETHERLANDS -- Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 7 Aug 50

It is estimated that the trade between Czechoslovakia and China during the first half of 1950 will involve tens of thousands of tons of goods. China will ship the following goods to Czechoslovakia: oil plants, goatskins, wolfram, lead, mercury, asbestos, hemp, silk, bristles, resin, tea, spices, and animal products. Czechoslovakia will ship to China steel products and machinery. Large quantities of heavy machinery are being prepared for shipment in 1951. Products primarily necessary for the fulfillment of the plans of each country will be exchanged.

As a result of its trade with China, Czechoslovakia is expected to increase its trade with noncapitalist countries up to 50 percent of its total foreign trade, as compared to 40 percent in 1949 and 45 percent in the first half of 1950.

On the basis of a Prague conference at the end of July of Dutch, Indonesian, and Czech delegations, a new trade agreement was signed to be valid between 1 August 1950 and 31 July 1951.

The trade between the Netherlands and Czechoslovakia will be valued at 90 million guilders for each country. This is somewhat less than the present agreement calls for and much less than the previous one called for.

The Netherlands and Indonesia will export to Czechoslovakia breeding cattle, cocoa products, herring, seed grain, flax, artificial silk yarns, various chemical and pharmaceutical products, machinery and instruments, metal products, electrotechnical items, zinc, rubber, and copra.

Czechoslovakia will export to the Netherlands hops, malt, oil seeds, paper products, wood and wood products, rolled products, machinery, automobiles, chemicals, pharmaceutical products, ceramics, and textiles.

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